

An Enlisted Space Cadre: A Year of Modest Progress



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Many of our Space Operations Officers will have the opportunity to lead and rate enlisted Soldiers while serving as commanders and leaders of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command (SMDC/ARSTRAT) organizations. Use this information when counseling and advising your Soldiers, especially as they consider whether to remain in SMDC/ARSTRAT or continue their careers in other Army Commands and Army Service Component Commands.

By CSM David Lady

In September 2005, the Army made real progress toward establishing an Army Space Cadre, and with it, an enlisted Space Cadre. The Space Cadre Force Management Analysis General Officer Steering Committee approved the Space Cadre definition and organizational construct and assigned the Army Space Cadre Office to U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command. These recommendations were accepted by the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army in January 2006.

Enlisted positions within the Army Space Cadre are identified as "Space Enablers." These Soldiers assist the Space operations professionals (FA40s) or perform other tasks critical to the Army's Space operations mission (such as satellite control).

There will be no Space Military Occupational Specialty (MOS). Enlisted members of the Space Cadre will be drawn from the Signal, Air Defense Artillery, Military Intelligence and Engineer branches. The Force Management Analysis recognized the need for additional skill indicators, to identify Soldiers serving in Space operations positions (such as ASI "1C" which identifies Satellite Control Specialists within Signal-MOS 25S).

SMDC/ARSTRAT was authorized to recommend additional skill indicators for Soldiers serving in Space Enabler positions and who receive functional training in order to perform Space operations tasks. As of this time, additional skill indicators requests have been submitted

for the Soldiers in MOS 14J (ADA: C4I TOC Operations Specialist) who serve in the Theater Missile Warning (JTAGS) detachments.

Preventing other additional skill indicator-initiatives is the lack of formal Space operations training for Soldiers assigned into Army Space Support Teams, Commercial Exploitation Teams and Space Support Elements. These Soldiers receive no recognized and formalized functional training in order to perform these missions. They are trained and certified to operate certain pieces of equipment. Any other skills are picked up on-the-job.

Until the SMDC/ARSTRAT Future Warfare Center specifies the missions of these teams and designs courses to train Soldiers in these missions, there will be no other initiatives to gain additional skill indicators for these Soldiers.

Space Enabler positions will be identified by all the Army Commands and Army Service Component Commands (ASCCs) by Aug. 31. SMDC/ARSTRAT has already identified its Space Enabler positions.

The number of Space Enabler positions in the command will grow over the period 2007-2011. During this period, 27 new Modified Table of Organization and Equipment (MTOE)-organizations will be added to the command (See chart). These units will bring the strength of SMDC/ARSTRAT (minus headquarters staff and civilians) to 1,864. Most of these Soldiers will be Space Enablers.

In addition to these organizations within SMDC/

Modified Table of Organization and Equipment Unit Activations FY07 - FY11

UNIT ACTIVATIONS	FY06 Current	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	UNIT PERSONNEL TOTALS
1 st Space Brigade	114 (AC/RC)						114 (70 AC/44 RC)
1 st Space Battalion	28						28 (AC)
1 st Space Company (TMWC)	10						10 (AC)
TMW Detachments	6 (96)						96 (AC)
2 nd Space Company Headquarters (Support)	7						7 (AC)
ARSST TMs	6 (36)						36 (AC)
CET TM	7						7 (AC)
4 th Space Control Company Headquarters (E)	7						7 (AC)
Space Control Detachment	22						22 (AC)
53 rd Signal Battalion (SATCON)	342						342 (AC)
New GMD Battalion						1 (204)	204 (AC)
X-Band Radars						4 (252)	252 (AC) AC **
RC Space Company Headquarters (3 rd and 5 th)		1 (7)	1 (7)				14 (RC)
RC Space Control Detachment (E)			2 (44)	1 (22)			66 (RC)
RC CET Team			2 (14)				14 (RC)
RC ARSST	4 (28)	5 (30)	1 (6)				30 (RC)
TPU	54						54 (NG)
MOB TDA	36						36 (NG)
100 th GMD Brigade	90 (NG/AC)						90 (77 NG/13 AC)
49 th GMD Battalion	204						204 (NG)
CO Army National Guard Space Support Battalion	51						51 (NG)
NG Space Control Company (CSRS)						1 (8)	8 (NG)
NG Space Control Detachment (CSRS)						4 (88)	88 (NG)
NG Space Companies (100 th /217 th)	2 (14)						14 (NG)
NG ARSSTs	7 (42)	4 (28)					70 (NG)
TOTAL PERSONNEL BY FISCAL YEAR	625 AC 138 RC 388 NG	37 RC 28 NG	71 RC	22 RC		456 AC 96 NG	1094 AC 258 RC 512 NG TOTAL 1864 MIL # in COS 828 MIL

AC = Active Duty
NG = National Guard
RC = Army Reserve

ARSTRAT, 27 Space Support Elements will be assigned to 18 division headquarters (Army Commands and National Guard), three Corps headquarters, and six theater-Army headquarters. The enlisted positions in these elements will be filled with 48 sergeants and staff sergeants, MOS 25S.

When compared to the number of Soldiers performing Space operations missions between 1997 and 2005, this growth is considerable and is a tribute to the success of the Soldiers of SMDC/ARSTRAT when supporting Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. To their excellence we owe the Army's recognition of the importance of Space capabilities in support of the maneuver force.

Progress was also made in a second area of interest to SMDC/ARSTRAT Soldiers — wearing of the Air Force Space and Missile Badge. By the end of 2005, the commanding general of Air Force Space Command had authorized awarding this badge to all Space operations Soldiers in the command. Previously, this badge had only been awarded to enlisted Soldiers with MOS 25S1C (Satellite Control Specialist).

These badges will be worn by Soldiers even after the badge is retired by the Air Force, however, no new Air Force Space and Missile Badges will be awarded after March 2006, when the badge is retired by the Air Force.

The new Air Force Space Cadre Badge can be awarded to Soldiers; however, the requirements are different from those of the older badge. A Soldier must have formal Introduction to Space Operations training (equivalent to the Air Force Space 100 Course), be placed in a Space Enabler position, and serve successfully in this

position for a year before the badge will be awarded. (See article on page 13F of *the Flipside* for more information.)

SMDC/ARSTRAT does not have the resources to send every Soldier to the Air Force Space 100 Course. The Future Warfare Center of the command must design an equivalent course, and this course will have to be delivered through the internet for every command Soldier to have the opportunity to complete it. Discussions toward designing this course have begun, but funding for course design and delivery has not yet been approved.

Some progress has been made in creating a Space Cadre. However, without a Space MOS, our Soldiers must move to other organizations and gain experience in non-Space operations in order to be ready for greater responsibility and promotion in the eyes of their branch managers. For this reason, few Soldiers can serve in SMDC/ARSTRAT for more than five or six consecutive years.

The Space Cadre Proponency Office will gradually expand in order to track enlisted as well as commissioned personnel with Space operations experience. This office will work with the Branch Assignment Managers to bring experienced Space operations NCOs back into SMDC/ARSTRAT. Soldiers who leave the command will be welcomed back after service in other organizations.

The two greatest obstacles remaining along the path toward a strong enlisted Space Cadre are the lack of accessible and specialized courses in Space operations, and the lack of additional skill indicators for most of the enlisted specialties engaged in Space operations. Both must be solved and the solutions will take time, funding and cooperation between the Air Force and Army staffs, SMDC/ARSTRAT and the traditional branches of the Army.